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Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2022 10:09 PM
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Subject: Strategic Report - 2022 02 09

STRATEGIC UPDATES FOR DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-09 at 2200 hours.

Opposition to Public Health Measures

Toronto Public Health provided information via the Ministry of Health that a protestor was harassing participants in an invitation-only vaccination clinic taking place at Bais Yaakov Elementary School in North Toronto. The clinic manager asked the protestor to leave. The protestor initially refused but departed and did not return after the manager informed them they would be calling the police.

Open Source Reporting

Social media messaging indicates an Ontario-wide school walkout is being planned for February 11th, 2022 to protest mask mandates and public health restrictions. The level of organization and anticipated participation in the walkout is not currently known.

ASSESSMENT

Currently, there is no specific, identified threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among participants in or supporters of opposition activities.

Freedom Convoy 2022 (Ottawa)

Police Reporting

- T The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reported low numbers of protestors at Parliament Hill today, with between 10 - 30 protestors present on Wellington Street and surrounding area throughout the day. It is estimated that there are 500 trucks in the downtown core. OPS as observed an increase in trucks on Sir John A Macdonald parkway overnight as well as a tent erected in the area.

Police observations noted 3 dumpsters, 25 portable toilets, and 3 saunas, along with several wooden pallets and a quantity of corded wood remain on site at 302 Coventry Rd (RCGT Park).

Police reporting notes increased tension and the appearance of anti-police signage amongst the truck drivers at the blockade. Protesters reportedly become visibly agitated in response to OPS officers confiscating fuel, which in turn elicited reactions from supporters who then attended the area.

Police reporting indicates there was likely a deliberate misinformation campaign regarding other planned protest locations in order to divert law enforcement away from Ottawa.

Police reporting indicates that there were no notable conflicts between protestors and counter-protestors today. A counter-protest comprised of 5 military veterans commenced February 9, 2022 (today), with the veterans indicating they plan to remain until the truck convoy departs Ottawa.

Open Source Reporting

At a press conference hosted by convoy organizers today, a spokesperson indicated that a contingent of 1500 would be joining the Ottawa convoy from Alberta. The composition of the alleged contingent (individuals, passenger vehicles, trucks) is not known.

Conspiracy theorists associated with the convoy continue to disseminate false information around the legality and intent of police enforcement.

Convoy organizers expressed displeasure with media reporting suggesting Child and Family Services would be coming to assess the welfare of children in the Freedom Convoy. Organizers indicated this narrative, in combination with statements by police leadership, are a deliberate attempt to instigate issues amongst protestors.

Convoy organizers have also provided instruction to supporters to make financial donations through cryptocurrency to prevent authorities from further seizing or delaying access to donations.

The new fundraiser on GiveSendGo has raised almost \$7.7 M USD and a Bitcoin wallet for the blockade contains over \$833,000 CAD. The ADOPT A TRUCKER account on GiveSendGo has raised almost \$639,000 CAD.

Ports of Entry - Windsor

Police Reporting

Convoy protests continued at the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor today. One northbound lane into the United States remains open and one lane into Canada remains open for emergency vehicles. Approximately 200 protestors are in the area.

Protesters have indicated they intend to leave their tractors overnight and into the weekend. The spokesperson for the protest has advised police that they will be protesting for an extended period of time and have no intention of moving until they hear from the government. Protesters advised that they have more vehicles planning to attend the protest; and if they are unable to get on the ramp, they will come through the fields along Hwy 402 or by other means. This incident remains within Windsor Police Service jurisdiction and OPP are engaged due to traffic building on Hwy 401.

Ports of Entry – Sarnia

Police Reporting

The anticipated convoy protest at the Bluewater Bridge in Sarnia did not materialize today, however further attempted actions in support of the Ottawa convoy are likely.

Open Source Reporting

Social media comments continue to encourage actions be staged at or near Ports of Entry and critical infrastructure. This includes recent comments which identify rail blockades as an effective mechanism to disrupt the economy and elicit a response from government.

Toronto Demonstrations

Police Reporting

Police reporting noted minimal activity in the Queen's Park area today, with no issues to report. Toronto Police Service closed Queen's Park Circle to traffic today in response to unconfirmed information that further convoys may be attending to the area in the coming days.

Open Source Reporting

A poster was shared through social media channels associated with the Freedom Convoy advocating for individuals to organize actions directed at legislature buildings across the country. A tag line read: "There's more than one place the government operates from." Messages identified Toronto as a starting point.

Social media information indicates that planning for 'Freedom Convoy Toronto: Round Two' (2022-02-11 to 2022-02-13) has begun circulating. OPP and Legislative Protective Service are aware and engaged in planning for possible demonstrations.

Other Potential Activity

Open Source Reporting

Niagara

Unconfirmed information indicates a protest is planned for February 12, 2022 to block the Peace bridge.

Oxford County

Unconfirmed information indicates a protest is planned for February 12, 2022 affecting the on and off ramps of Highway 401 at Highway 59 and Highway 19.

Sault Ste. Marie

Unconfirmed information indicates a protest is planned to block international border crossings this weekend.

Local convoy actions are anticipated in other jurisdictions across the province, please see the updated event schedule for additional information.

Social media messaging has called for peaceful protests in all jurisdictions that have provided police personnel to Ottawa.

ASSESSMENT

The situation in Ottawa remains volatile and represents a public safety threat and an officer safety threat. Support actions across the province appear to be increasing, particularly at border points. The events in Ottawa appear to have considerable support as measured by funding, logistics, participant numbers, and more recently the number ancillary actions which continue to increase. In this respect, the current blockade at the Windsor US-Canada border underscores the potential for major events to occur concomitantly which, in addition to placing a significant strain on law enforcement resources, leverages economic disruption as a means of applying pressure to the federal government.

The protest landscape related to public health restrictions and vaccine mandates is fluid and dynamic, with solidarity demonstrations or convoys continuing to develop in many jurisdictions. Organized and pop-up protests, convoys and solidarity actions at the local level, including blockades at international ports of entry, should be expected for the foreseeable future. The potential for conflict amongst individuals and groups with differing agendas at these protests persists, which could pose both a public safety and officer safety threat. At this juncture, there is no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest and Operation BearHug 2.0 activity. However, the possibility that a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a physical threat with little or no warning cannot be excluded.

EVENT SCHEDULE

February 10, 2022

- **Ottawa: Convoy from Moncton NB** – convoy to Ottawa, organizers indicate they are staying for the weekend only
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800hrs)

February 11, 2022

- **Sarnia: Tractor Convoy** - HWY 402 westbound Kerrwood exit (0600hrs). Organizers plan to block the highway until all mandates are lifted.
- **Kawartha Lakes: Rise Up Kawartha Lakes Convoy to Ottawa** – departing from Lindsay Square Mall every Friday until freedom is restored(0800hrs)
- **Ontario: School Walkout to Lift Mandates**
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800hrs)

February 12, 2022

- **Ottawa: Call for Freedom Rally** – Parliament Hill (no further details)
- **Toronto: Freedom Convoy Toronto Round Two** – Queens Park 2022-02-12 (1100hrs). Stating they will not leave this time until all mandate are lifted. Meeting at the following locations at 1000hrs:
 - o Vaughan Mills
 - o Yorkdale Mall
 - o Sherway Gardens
 - o Square One
- **Toronto: Mandate Freedom - Peaceful Assembly** – Queen’s Park (1200hrs)
- **Hamilton: Protest at City Hall** (1400hrs)
- **Saint-Honoré-de-Shenley: Convoy to Ottawa** (0600hrs)
- **Montreal: Rally “Unis dans l’amour pour la liberté”** (1300hrs) – some participants will go to Ottawa
- **Kingston: Slow Roll** – HWY 38 carpool (1300hrs)
- **Niagara Falls: USA-Canada Convoys 2022** – Peace Bridge (1100hrs) – currently being organized only on the New York side of the border
- **Huntsville: Anti-Regulation Protest** – Huntsville Place Mall along Hwy 11 to Doe Lake Rd and return (1100hrs)
- **Haliburton: Haliburton Freedom Rally** (unconfirmed)

Bracebridge: Anti-Regulation Protest – memorial Park, to be joined by Huntsville convoy (no further details)

- **Lindsay: Rise Up Kawartha Lakes Freedom Skate and Protest** – Victoria Park (1300hrs – 1500hrs) every Saturday until freedom is restored

- **Tillsonburg: Oxford Freedom Convoy** – 400 Simcoe St. (1200 hrs). Estimating 500 vehicles (farm tractors, passenger vehicles and tractor trailers).
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800hrs)
- **London: Freedom Convoy #2 – 4350 Wellington Rd S Parking Lot (1400hrs meet; 1500hrs rollout. London: Local Convoy – Heading to Ambassador Bridge afterwards**

February 13, 2022

- **Ottawa: Blue Collar Convoy – 2022-02-13 starting at GRCT Park (btb RCGT Park, 302 Coventry Rd, Ottawa) two routes:**
 - o **East Route:** departing GRCT Park 0900hrs; stopping at the RA centre then to Parliament Hill
 - o **West Route:** departing Canadian Tire Centre, 1000 Palladium Drive, Ottawa (0900hrs) to Parliament Hill
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800hrs)

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